

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 13 and 24 as follows.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) A stabilizer bar assembly comprising:
 - a stabilizer bar;
 - a first bushing assembly attached to said stabilizer bar, said first bushing assembly comprising:
 - a first annular outer metal member disposed around said stabilizer bar; and
 - a first elastomeric bushing engaging said first outer metal member and said stabilizer bar, said first elastomeric bushing having a prespecified percent compression such that all rotation between said stabilizer bar and said first outer metal member causes only deflection of said first elastomeric bushing.
2. (original) The stabilizer bar assembly according to Claim 1, wherein said first bushing assembly includes a mounting strap secured to said first outer metal member.
3. (previously presented) The stabilizer bar assembly according to Claim 1, further comprising a second bushing assembly attached to said stabilizer bar, said second bushing assembly comprising:
 - a second annular outer metal member disposed around said stabilizer bar;
 - and

a second elastomeric bushing engaging said second outer metal member and said stabilizer bar, said second elastomeric bushing having a prespecified percent compression such that all rotation between said stabilizer bar and said second outer metal member causes only deflection of said second elastomeric bushing.

4. (previously presented) The stabilizer bar assembly according to Claim 3, wherein said first bushing assembly includes a first mounting strap secured to said first outer metal member and said second bushing assembly includes a second mounting strap secured to said second outer metal member.

5. (previously presented) A stabilizer bar assembly comprising:
a stabilizer bar;
a first bushing assembly attached to said stabilizer bar, said first bushing assembly comprising:
a first outer metal member disposed around said stabilizer bar; and
a first elastomeric bushing disposed between said first outer metal member and said stabilizer bar, said first elastomeric bushing having a prespecified percent compression such that all rotation between said stabilizer bar and said first outer metal member causes only deflection of said first elastomeric bushing, wherein said percent compression is between 20% and 60%.

6. (previously presented) A stabilizer bar assembly comprising:
a stabilizer bar;

a first bushing assembly attached to said stabilizer bar, said first bushing assembly comprising:

a first outer metal member disposed around said stabilizer bar; and

a first elastomeric bushing disposed between said first outer metal member and said stabilizer bar, said first elastomeric bushing having a prespecified percent compression such that all rotation between said stabilizer bar and said first outer metal member causes only deflection of said first elastomeric bushing, wherein said percent compression is between 35% and 50%.

7. (original) A stabilizer assembly comprising:

a stabilizer bar;

a first bushing assembly attached to said stabilizer bar, said first bushing assembly comprising:

a first outer metal member disposed around said stabilizer bar, said first outer metal member defining a first annular gap between said stabilizer bar and an inner surface of said first outer metal member; and

a first elastomeric bushing compressingly disposed within said first annular gap, an outer surface of said first elastomeric bushing being fixed to said inner surface of said first outer metal member and an inner surface of said first elastomeric bushing being fixed to said stabilizer bar during all rotation of said stabilizer bar with respect to said first outer metal member due to compression of said first elastomeric bushing.

8. (original) The stabilizer bar assembly according to Claim 7, wherein said first bushing assembly includes a mounting strap secured to said first outer metal member.

9. (original) The stabilizer bar assembly according to Claim 7, further comprising a second bushing assembly attached to said stabilizer bar, said second bushing assembly comprising:

a second outer metal member disposed around said stabilizer bar, said second outer metal member defining a second annular gap between said stabilizer bar and an inner surface of said second outer metal member; and

a second elastomeric bushing compressingly disposed within said second annular gap, an outer surface of said second elastomeric bushing being fixed to said inner surface of said second outer metal member and an inner surface of said second elastomeric bushing being fixed to said stabilizer bar during all rotation of said stabilizer bar with respect to said first outer metal member due to compression of said second elastomeric bushing.

10. (previously presented) The stabilizer bar assembly according to Claim 9, wherein said first bushing assembly includes a first mounting strap secured to said first outer metal member and said second bushing assembly includes a second mounting strap secured to said second outer metal member.

11. (previously presented) A stabilizer assembly comprising:

a stabilizer bar;

a first bushing assembly attached to said stabilizer bar, said first bushing assembly comprising:

a first outer metal member disposed around said stabilizer bar, said first outer metal member defining a first annular gap between said stabilizer bar and an inner surface of said first outer metal member; and

a first elastomeric bushing compressingly disposed within said first annular gap, an outer surface of said first elastomeric bushing being fixed to said inner surface of said first outer metal member and an inner surface of said first elastomeric bushing being fixed to said stabilizer bar during all rotation of said stabilizer bar with respect to said first outer metal member due to compression of said first elastomeric bushing, wherein said percent compression is between 20% and 60%.

12. (previously presented) A stabilizer assembly comprising:

a stabilizer bar;

a first bushing assembly attached to said stabilizer bar, said first bushing assembly comprising:

a first outer metal member disposed around said stabilizer bar, said first outer metal member defining a first annular gap between said stabilizer bar and an inner surface of said first outer metal member; and

a first elastomeric bushing compressingly disposed within said first annular gap, an outer surface of said first elastomeric bushing being fixed to said inner surface of said first outer metal member and an inner surface of said first elastomeric

bushing being fixed to said stabilizer bar during all rotation of said stabilizer bar with respect to said first outer metal member due to compression of said first elastomeric bushing, wherein said percent compression is between 35% and 50%.

13. (currently amended) A stabilizer bar assembly comprising:

a stabilizer bar;

a first bushing assembly attached to said stabilizer bar, said first bushing assembly comprising:

a first elastomeric bushing engaging said stabilizer bar; and

a first outer metal member disposed around said stabilizer bar in engagement with ~~engaging~~ said first elastomeric bushing, said first elastomeric bushing being compressed by said first outer metal member to a first prespecified percent of compression, said first prespecified percent of compression fixing an inner surface of said first elastomeric bushing to said stabilizer bar and fixing an outer surface of said first elastomeric bushing to said first outer metal member during all rotation of said stabilizer bar with respect to said first outer metal member.

14. (original) The stabilizer bar assembly according to Claim 13, wherein said first bushing assembly includes a mounting strap secured to said first outer metal member.

15. (previously presented) The stabilizer bar assembly according to Claim 13, further comprising a second bushing assembly attached to said stabilizer bar, said second bushing assembly comprising:

a second elastomeric bushing disposed around said stabilizer bar; and

a second outer metal member disposed around said second elastomeric bushing, said second elastomer bushing being compressed by said second outer metal member to a second prespecified percent of compression, said second prespecified percent of compression fixing an inner surface of said second elastomeric bushing to said stabilizer bar and fixing an outer surface of said second elastomeric bushing to said second outer metal member during all rotation of said stabilizer bar with respect to said second outer metal member.

16. (previously presented) The stabilizer bar assembly according to Claim 15, wherein said first bushing assembly includes a first mounting strap secured to said first outer metal member and said second bushing assembly includes a second mounting strap secured to said second outer metal member.

17. (previously presented) A stabilizer bar assembly comprising:

a stabilizer bar;

a first bushing assembly attached to said stabilizer bar, said first bushing assembly comprising:

a first elastomeric bushing disposed around said stabilizer bar; and

a first outer metal member disposed around said first elastomeric bushing, said first elastomeric bushing being compressed by said first outer metal member to a first prespecified percent of compression, said first prespecified percent of compression fixing an inner surface of said first elastomeric bushing to said stabilizer bar and fixing an outer surface of said first elastomeric bushing to said first outer metal member during all rotation of said stabilizer bar with respect to said first outer metal member, wherein said percent compression is between 20% and 60%.

18. (previously presented) A stabilizer bar assembly comprising:

a stabilizer bar;

a first bushing assembly attached to said stabilizer bar, said first bushing assembly comprising:

a first elastomeric bushing disposed around said stabilizer bar; and

a first outer metal member disposed around said first elastomeric bushing, said first elastomeric bushing being compressed by said first outer metal member to a first prespecified percent of compression, said first prespecified percent of compression fixing an inner surface of said first elastomeric bushing to said stabilizer bar and fixing an outer surface of said first elastomeric bushing to said first outer metal member during all rotation of said stabilizer bar with respect to said first outer metal member, wherein said percent compression is between 35% and 50%.

19. (original) A stabilizer bar assembly comprising:

a stabilizer bar;

a first bushing assembly attached to said stabilizer bar, said first bushing assembly comprising:

a first outer metal member disposed around said stabilizer bar; and

a first elastomeric bushing compressed between said first outer metal member and said stabilizer bar, said first elastomeric bushing having a percent compression between 20% and 60%.

20. (original) A stabilizer bar assembly according to Claim 19, wherein said percent compression is between 35% and 50%.

21. (original) The stabilizer bar assembly according to Claim 19, wherein said first bushing assembly includes a mounting strap secured to said first outer metal.

22. (original) The stabilizer bar assembly according to Claim 19, further comprising a second bushing assembly attached to said stabilizer bar, said second bushing assembly comprising:

a second outer metal member disposed around said stabilizer bar; and

a second elastomeric bushing disposed between said second outer metal member and said stabilizer bar, said second elastomeric bushing having a prespecified percent compression such that all rotation between said stabilizer bar and said second outer metal member causes only deflection of said second elastomeric bushing.

23. (original) The stabilizer bar assembly according to Claim 22, wherein said first bushing assembly includes a first mounting strap secured to said first outer metal and said second bushing assembly includes a second mounting strap secured to said second outer metal.

24. (currently amended) A method of assembling a stabilizer bar, said method comprising:

providing a stabilizer bar;

providing an interference fit directly between said stabilizer bar and an annular bushing;

positioning said annular bushing ~~[[on]]~~ around said stabilizer bar, said interference fit maintaining said position of said annular bushing ~~[[on]]~~ around said stabilizer bar; and

assembling an outer annular metal member ~~[[over]]~~ around said annular bushing and around said stabilizer bar by compressing said annular bushing directly between said stabilizer bar and said outer annular metal member.

25. (previously presented) A method of assembling a stabilizer bar, said method comprising:

providing a stabilizer bar;

providing an interference fit between said stabilizer bar and an annular bushing;

positioning said annular bushing on said stabilizer bar, said interference fit maintaining said position of said annular bushing on said stabilizer bar; and

assembling an outer annular metal member over said annular bushing and said stabilizer bar by compressing said annular bushing between said stabilizer bar and said outer annular metal member, wherein said assembling step includes compressing said annular bushing to a percent compression between 20% and 60%.

26. (previously presented) A method of assembling a stabilizer bar, said method comprising:

providing a stabilizer bar;

providing an interference fit between said stabilizer bar and an annular bushing;

positioning said annular bushing on said stabilizer bar, said interference fit maintaining said position of said annular bushing on said stabilizer bar; and

assembling an outer annular metal member over said annular bushing and said stabilizer bar by compressing said annular bushing between said stabilizer bar and said outer annular metal member, wherein said assembling step includes compressing said annular bushing to a percent compression between 35% and 50%.

27. (original) The method of assembling a stabilizer bar according to Claim 24, further comprising securing a mounting strap to said outer annular metal member.